

\*\*\*\*\* T O P S E C R E T \*\*\*\*\*S COPY

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WTE016  
DF WTE30 #0016 0150755  
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TO THE WHITE HOUSE  
FM USLO PEKING

TOP SECRET /SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

25X1

PEKING 55  
TO: GENERAL SCOWCROFT  
FROM: DAVID BRUCE  
SUBJECT: NICK PLATT

JANUARY 15, 1974

1. PLATT AND FAMILY HAVE FIRM RESERVATIONS TO LEAVE HERE FOR PARIS DEPARTING PEKING JANUARY 19. WE HAD ADVISED CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON JANUARY 3 THAT HE WOULD BE GOING WITHIN APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS.

2. HE HAS BECAUSE OF COMMUNICATION FROM YOU MADE NO ANSWER TO STATE DEPARTMENT SUGGESTION TO EXPRESS A PREFERENCE BETWEEN FIFUR PROPOSED ASSIGNMENTS.

3. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES WE DO NOT KNOW IN WHAT TERMS  
TO ASK TRAVEL ORDERS FROM STATE. FOR EXAMPLE IF THE NSC  
POSITION WERE NOT FEASIBLE AND HE DECIDED TO TAKE THE ASSIGNMENT  
TO JAPAN IT WOULD BE MORE PRACTICABLE FOR HIM TO GO DIRECTLY  
FROM HERE TO JAPAN VIA HONG KONG.

4. I DISLIKE PRESSING YOU ABOUT ABOVE FOR YOU HAVE  
ALREADY BEEN MORE THAN CONSIDERATE AND HELPFUL, BUT BOTH FOR  
PLATT'S SAKE AND BECAUSE OF STATEMENT MADE TO PRC ABOUT THE TWO  
WEEK PERIOD THE SITUATION COULD BE RATHER EMBARRASSING.

5. HAVE YOU ANY SUGGESTIONS.  
5. WARM REGARDS.

200

State Dept. review completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

SCOWCROFT, MCFARLANE, BURKE

**RECALLED**

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